## 10/582879 (AP20 Rec'd PC7/PTO 14 JUN 2006

Docket No.: AAO-0277

(PATENT)

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

Shinichi Tao et al.

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Confirmation No.: N/A

Filed: Concurrently Herewith

Art Unit: N/A

For: OXYGEN CONCENTRATING APPARATUS

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

## **INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)**

MS PCT Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56. Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

- A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98
  - excluding a copy of U.S. patent or U.S. patent application publication as waived by the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, since this application was filed after June 30, 2003 or has entered the national stage under 35 U.S.C. § 371 after June 30, 2003 (1276 OG 55).

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Concise Explanation of Relevancy of the Document

Any document having neither English translation nor English abstract has been cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application or international application, or its related application. A copy of the

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

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communication is attached hereto, accompanied by English translation of at least relevant part, if it is not in English. English translation of the document is not readily available; however, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted document (37 C.F.R. §1.98 and MPEP §609).

1. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date or within three months from the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.491 in compliance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b), OR is being filed concurrent with filing of the Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) or the Request for Continued Examination (RCE). No fee is required (37 C.F.R. §1.97(b)). A summary/abstract translation of the non-English language references is enclosed.

Dated: June 14, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

Christopher J. Wickstrom Registration No.: 57,199

RADER, FISHMAN & GRAUER PLLC

1233 20th Street, N.W.

Suite 501

Washington, DC 20036

(202) 955-3750

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|---------------------------------|------------------|---------|--------------|------------------------|-----------------------|--|
|                                 |                  |         |              | Application Number     | Not yet Assigned      |  |
| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE          |                  |         |              | Filing Date            | Concurrently Herewith |  |
| l s                             | TATEMENT E       | 3Y /    | APPLICANT    | First Named Inventor   | Shinichi Tao          |  |
|                                 |                  |         |              | Art Unit               | N/A                   |  |
|                                 | (Use as many she | eets as | s necessary) | Examiner Name          | Not Yet Assigned      |  |
| Sheet                           | 1                | of      | 1            | Attorney Docket Number | AAO-0277              |  |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |              |  |                                |  |   |
|-----------------------|--------------|--|--------------------------------|--|---|
| Examiner<br>Initials* | Cite<br>No.1 | Document Number  Number-Kind Code <sup>2</sup> ( if known) | Publication Date<br>MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where<br>Relevant Passages or Relevant<br>Figures Appear |
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|                    | FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |   |                             |  |   |   |  |
|--------------------|--------------------------|---|-----------------------------|--|---|---|--|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite<br>No.1             | Foreign Patent Document  Country Code <sup>3</sup> -Number <sup>4</sup> -Kind Code <sup>5</sup> (# known) | Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY | Name of Patentee or<br>Applicant of Cited Document | Pages, Columns, Lines,<br>Where Relevant Passages<br>or Relevant Figures Appear |   |  |
|                    | BÁ                       | EP-1481703-A  | 12-01-2004                  | TEIJIN LTD.  |   | П |  |
|                    | BB                       | JP-62-140619-A  | 06-24-1987                  | TEIJIN LTD.  |   |   |  |
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\*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. \* CITE NO.: Those application(s) which are marked with an single asterisk (\*) next to the Cite No. are not supplied (under 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(iii)) because that application was filed after June 30, 2003 or is available in the IFW. 'Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup> See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at <a href="www.uspto.gov">www.uspto.gov</a> or MPEP 901.04. <sup>3</sup> Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). <sup>4</sup> For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. <sup>5</sup> Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. <sup>6</sup> Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

| NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS |                          |   |    |  |  |
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| Examiner<br>Initials            | Cite<br>No. <sup>1</sup> | Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published. | T² |  |  |
|                                 | CA                       | International Search Report   |    |  |  |

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| Examiner  | · | Date       |
|-----------|---|------------|
| Signature |   | Considered |
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup>Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). <sup>2</sup>Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.